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HEALTH
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Borough of Epsom and Ewell.



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1954

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Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM,
Surrey.

July, 1955.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an Annual Report for the year 1954, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements outlined in Circular 28/54 of the Ministry of Health.

The change in the Registrar General's method of assigning deaths occurring in hospitals for the chronic sick was described in the report for 1953. Its consequence has been to transfer the Borough from the group of districts with the lowest death rates in the country to that with the highest. During the year there was an excess of deaths over births of 488. An endeavour has been made to set out the statistics and tables in this report in such a way as to show separate details for private residents and patients in hospitals for the chronic sick. Notwithstanding what has been said above it can be claimed that the year has been in most respects a healthy one. Of the infectious diseases no deaths were caused by influenza, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, whooping cough or measles, and there was a considerable fall in the number of deaths from pneumonia. There was a rise in the tuberculosis death-rate, though the number of deaths from the disease among private residents fell. The number of infants dying under the age of one year, and the associated infant mortality rate, were the lowest yet recorded.

Final arrangements were made during the year for the conversion of six trolley buses for use as mobile conveniences to be used at race meetings on the Downs. This scheme should result in a definite improvement in the standard of sanitation provided for the public who attend race meetings. So far no provision has been made for the considerable number of people who take recreation on the Downs at all times of the year, and frequently in such numbers as to create a sanitary problem.

It is my pleasure once again to record my appreciation to the Council and particularly to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, for the encouragement which they have given to the Public Health Department in fulfilling its duties. I am most grateful, also, to the Council's officers in other departments for the co-operation and advice which they have been able and willing to give on many occasions.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1954 - 55

Alderman	J. A. Larby, J.P.	Chairman
Councillor	W. A. Glover	Vice-Chairman
Alderman	Mrs. A. Winter	
Councillor	A. Bain, J.P.	
"	H. A. V. Edwards	
"	W. J. D. Godsell	
"	P. A. L. Hodges, A.M.I.I.A.	
"	Mrs. M. M. King	
"	K. V. Waddilove	
"	J. Waller, A.S.A.A.	
"	Mrs. L. M. Woodcock	

HOUSING (SELECTION OF TENANTS) SUB-COMMITTEE

Representative on the Sub-Committee set up by the Housing Committee:--

Councillor	Mrs. M. M. King.
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PUBLIC CONVENIENCES SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor	H. A. V. Edwards
"	J. Waller, A.S.A.A.
"	Mrs. L. M. Woodcock

ABOLITION OF CESSPOOLS SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman and Vice-Chairman:

Councillor P. A. L. Hodges, A.M.I.I.A.,
and three representatives each of the
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal, Water and
Finance Committees.

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

- o Cyrus Ive, M.B., (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

- / Wm. H. C. Hagger, M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:

- x/ L. H. Grace, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

- / W. C. Alder, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
/ K. J. Tyler M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Trained Nurse engaged on Public Health Duties:

- Miss E. Hauxwell, S.R.N. (Devotes 5/11ths of her time to duties
(with the Surrey County Council)

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff:

- Senior Clerk: C. H. Argent.
Shorthand/Typist: Miss E. E. Nolan.
Telephonist: Mrs. M. E. Joseph.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Clerical Staff and Outside Staff:

- Chief Clerk: H. J. T. Woolford, A.R.San.I.
Senior Shorthand/Typist & Clerk: Miss D. D. Wood.
Shorthand/Typist & Clerk: Mrs. J. Bulezuik.
Junior Clerk: R. J. Grinsted. (Left for National
Service 30/10/54.
Post vacant.)

- General Assistants and Mortuary Attendants: W. Goodenough.
J. I. Stephens.

- Rodent Operatives: A. Bawden.
E. Merrett.

- o The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts and for the Dorking and Horley Rural District.

- / Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

- x Holds Sanitary Science Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
THE YEAR 1954

SECTION 1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	8,427
Population (Census 1951)	68,055
Population (Estimated mid-year 1954)	67,130
Density (persons per acre)	8.0
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1954	18,375
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1954	£775,557
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£3,191

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births

Total Male Female

Total Live Births	653	322	331	Birth rate per	
Legitimate "	634	314	320	1,000 population	9.7
Illegitimate "	19	8	11		
				Standardised	
				Birth rate	10.9

Still Births

Total Still Births	6	1	5	Rate per 1,000	
Legitimate "	5	1	4	total live and	
Illegitimate "	1	-	1	still births	9.1
				Rate per 1,000	
				population	0.09

Deaths

1,141	557	584	Crude Death Rate	17.0
			Standardised	
			Death Rate	15.0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

Total infant deaths	9	4	5	Mortality Rate per	
				1,000 live births	13.8

Deaths of Infants under 1 month of age

Total neonatal deaths	8	4	4	Mortality Rate	
				per 1,000 live	
				births	12.3

Maternal Mortality

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Table I tabulates birth and death rates, and case rates for infectious diseases, and compares them with the figures for 1953.

Table II shows a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales for the same period.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 653, of which 322 were males and 331 females, representing a birth-rate of 9.7 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the rate of 15.2 for England and Wales. A comparability factor (1.12) has been supplied by the Registrar General, allowing for variations in age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, which permits comparison of the local rate with those of other districts. After application of the factor a standardised birth-rate of 10.9 is obtained. In 1953 there were 679 births with a standardised birth-rate of 11.2.

One reason for the low birth-rate is the fact that nearly one-eighth of the Borough's population consists of patients in hospitals who take no part in the reproductive life of the community.

DEATHS

The Deaths registered in the area after correction for inward and outward transfers numbered 1,141, representing a crude death-rate of 17.0 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, compared with the rate of 11.3 for England and Wales. In this total the deaths of males numbered 557 and of females 584.

A comparability factor (0.88) has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death-rate for use in comparing the local death-rate with the standardised rates of other areas or with the crude death rate for England and Wales. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distributions of local populations.

Application of the factor to the crude rate gives a standardised death-rate of 15.0.

In 1953 there were 1,146 deaths, giving a standardised death-rate of 14.9.

The explanation of the high death-rate lies in the fact that the Borough has within its boundaries a large hospital population (7,882 patients) which is residential in character. When a vacancy occurs it is filled at once, usually by an elderly person with a relatively short expectation of life. It is not surprising, therefore, that 508 deaths occurred among mental hospital patients, compared with 633 deaths in the remaining population of the Borough. The average age at death of private residents was 67.3 years for males and 71.6 years for females. In the residential hospital group the comparable figure was 65.5 for males and 70.4 for females. All deaths assigned to the Borough are classified in Table III which is subdivided to show whether the residence was private or hospital.

Causes of Death

In examining this table it will be noted that for certain causes deaths among hospital patients outnumbered those of private residents. This position occurred in deaths from tuberculosis, syphilitic disease and accidents other than road accidents. The question of tuberculosis is discussed in Section 6 of this report, and a note on fatal accidents is given below. The high death-rate from syphilitic disease in hospital patients is explained by the fact that it was one of the later manifestations of the disease, general paralysis of the insane, which was responsible. Patients suffering from this condition are admitted for the care and special treatment available in the mental hospitals.

Causes of Death (cont.)

These figures record only those cases in which the progress of the disease had not been stopped sufficiently early for the patient to be discharged.

Accidental Deaths

(1) Road Accidents Nine deaths were registered as being caused by road accidents, compared with 4 in 1953. Two of the deceased were patients in mental hospitals to which they had been admitted for complications arising from injuries received at the time of the accidents. In the case of several of the remainder the scene of accident was outside the Borough.

(2) Other Accidents The number of accidental deaths, other than road accidents, rose from 20 in 1953 to 34. Twenty of these deaths occurred in mental hospitals, though in many cases the accidents had occurred before admission to hospital. Frequently the accidents were trivial in character, such as slight falls in the ward, home or street. As most of the persons concerned were elderly the injuries and shock were sufficient to start the pathological processes which ultimately caused their deaths. Of the accidents among private residents, burns and scalds accounted for 2 deaths, and explosives and gun shot wounds for the same number.

Suicidal Deaths

Suicidal deaths numbered 11, of which 3 were in hospital patients. In 1953 the number was 8.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of children under 1 year of age numbered 9, giving an infant mortality rate of 13.8 per 1,000 live births. These figures compare favourably with the rate of 25.5 for England and Wales.

Eight of the deaths occurred within 28 days of birth, with a neonatal death-rate of 12.3 per 1,000 live births compared with the rate of 17.7 for England and Wales.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths attributable to maternal causes. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.69 per 1,000 births.

SECTION 2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory service is maintained by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health. A local laboratory of the service is situated at West Hill House, West Hill, Epsom.

The staff of the laboratory examine and report on material submitted by medical practitioners and on the bacteriological conditions of samples of milk, food and water taken by local authorities' Public Health Departments. The results of the examination of water and milk supplies are summarised in later sections of this report, and those relating to ice-cream are dealt with in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service in this area:-

The Borough is in Kingston area of control, the main ambulance station being situated in Malden (Telephone No. Malden 1173). There is a sub-station in Langton Avenue, Ewell.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in sudden illness in streets and public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone dial 999). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife who should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned, or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request accompanied by a Doctor's certificate should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Providing that these requirements are fulfilled no charge will be made to users.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

In these Acts powers are given to local authorities to seek court orders for the compulsory temporary removal to hospital or institution of persons in ill health or in a senile state who are in a state of neglect. No action was required during the year, though it was necessary to consider it on several occasions.

Since the Acts came into operation, three Orders for compulsory removal have been asked for, the application having been successful in each case.

NURSING IN THE HOME

GENERAL NURSING

Domiciliary nursing is carried out by the district nursing staff of the County Council whose address is the Nurses Home, 19 Alexandra Road, Epsom, (Telephone No. Epsom 1153).

Nursing in the Home (cont.)

PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS

The British Red Cross Society (Epsom, Ewell and Stoneleigh Division) maintain a Medical Loan Depot at Red Cross House, 117 East Street, Epsom, (Telephone No. Epsom 3250). The hours of opening are:-

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

The depot has a wide range of equipment necessary for nursing in the home.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is administered locally by the Divisional Medical Officer of the Surrey County Council. Details of the service can be obtained from the supervisor at Ashley House, Ashley Road, Epsom, (Telephone No. Epsom 9512).

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN, ETC.

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, immunisation and vaccination, ambulance and domestic help are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration is carried on by the Central Divisional Health Sub-Committee with offices at Ashley House, Ashley Road, Epsom. The Health Centres are situated at 44 Waterloo Road, Epsom and at Ewell Court House.

Some of the outlying parts of the Borough are served by Welfare Centres situated in adjacent districts, and for the isolated areas of Langley Vale and the Wells Estate clinics are held twice a month at conveniently situated premises.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against diphtheria can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act or from County Council Clinics. Figures relating to the numbers treated will be found in Section 6 of this report.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S CLINIC

A branch of the Family Planning Association is active in the Borough. It provides a weekly clinic at the Epsom District Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of contraception to married persons, and also with the investigation of sub-fertility and other sex problems.

Information has been received from the Hon. Secretary, (Mrs. Hawley, Telephone No. Epsom 2769) of the local branch of the Association that 1,540 visits were made to the clinic in the past year, including 472 first visits, and that postal enquiries totalled 1,429.

Applications for appointments should be made to Mrs. Poulton, Telephone No. Ewell 2156.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES, DELOUSING

The clinic for the treatment of people suffering from scabies has continued its work in the premises at the rear of "The Cedars, Church Street, Epsom. The work is carried out by a general-trained State Registered Nurse, and has undoubtedly been effective in its results. The function of the clinic is essentially treatment, and patients are not accepted unless referred by a medical practitioner. Emphasis is laid on the importance of prophylactic treatment for close contacts.

Facilities of the clinic are open to the residents of Leatherhead Urban District, whose Council undertakes a proportionate share in the cost of the establishment. During the year 52 persons were treated, 33 resident in the Borough and 19 from the Leatherhead Urban District.

The Clinic has also been used in assisting persons to rid themselves of infestation by head and body lice. Four patients were treated for head lice during the year, and 2 for body lice, the latter being residents in the Leatherhead Urban District.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The Regional Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the administration of matters dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases. Details of local clinics are set out on page nine.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The South London Blood Supply Depot, housed at Stanley Road, Sutton, Surrey, (Telephone No. Vigilant 8221) has a day and night service for the issuing of blood for transfusion purposes. This can be obtained by medical practitioners on application direct to them.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

On the following page the location and time-table of clinics is set out in convenient form for reference.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Ante-natal Clinics	Epsom District Hospital.	Mons. & Thurs. 2 p.m.
	Ewell Court House.	Fridays 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Priory Crescent, North Cheam.	Mon. & Fri. 9.30 - 12 noon.
Child Welfare Clinics	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom.	Mon. & Wed. 2 - 4 p.m.
	Ewell Court House.	Mon. Wed. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Jubilee Inst. Malden Rd. Worcester Park.	Mon. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Priory Crescent, North Cheam.	Mon. & Thurs. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
	Parochial Rooms, Malden Rd., Cheam.	Weds. 2 - 4 p.m.
	"Tanhurst", Rosebery Rd. Epsom Downs.	1st and 3rd Weds. in month at 2 p.m.
	Wells Estate.	Thursdays 2 p.m.
General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinic	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom.	Weds. 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon.
	Ewell Court House.	Mon. 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon.
Family Planning Association Clinic	Epsom District Hospital.	Fridays 7 p.m.
Scabies Treatment Clinic.	"The Cedars", Church St, Epsom.	By appointment.
Chest Clinic	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom.	Tues. & Thurs. 2 p.m. Every 3rd Thurs. in month at 5.30 p.m.
Venereal Diseases	St. Helier Hospital, Wrythe Lane, Carshalton.	Males: Mons. 5 - 7 p.m. Females: Weds. 5 - 7 p.m. Fri. 1.30 - 3.30 p.m.
	Kingston Hospital, Wolverton Avenue, Kingston-upon-Thames.	Females: By appointment.

(And at the Out-patient Department of many London Hospitals)

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics	44 Waterloo Road, Epsom.	Every Friday 10 a.m.
	Ewell Court House.	Every Tuesday 2 p.m.

SECTION 3.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

That part of the district constituting the parish of Epsom is supplied by water from the Council's undertaking. The water is obtained from deep wells, boring and adits in the chalk situated in East Street, and yields a quantity sufficient for all the needs of the community. It is chlorinated before distribution. No softening process is carried out though it is the Council's intention to install a softening process when it is able to obtain the sanction of the Ministry of Health to the financial expenditure and to the use of labour and materials. Frequent bacteriological samples and chemical samples of raw and treated water have been taken under the direction of the Borough Water Engineer. The results show that the raw water and the water pumped to supply have been of excellent quality.

Ewell and the greater part of Cuddington are supplied by the Sutton District Water Company with a softened water derived from wells in the chalk situated at Cheam, Sutton and Woodmansterne. Frequent samples have been taken at domestic premises in this area and results found to be satisfactory. Copies of analytical results have also been received at regular intervals of samples taken by the Company's Officials.

The West Park and Manor Hospitals maintain deep wells from which considerable volumes of water are pumped, chlorinated and distributed within the institutions. The bulk of the water used in both hospitals is, however, taken from the Corporation's mains. By arrangement with the Hospital Management Committees the bacteriological quality of the water taken from the wells is under the observation of the Public Health Department.

A number of houses in the northern part of the area are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board, and two cottages on the south-west outskirts of Epsom by the East Surrey Water Company.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Sewage Works

There are two Sewage Works in the Borough, one situated at Hook Road, Epsom, and the other near Ruxley Lane, West Ewell.

Sewage from the Epsom area is delivered to the Hook Road Works, where a considerable part is treated by the Simplex Aeration Plant. The remainder gravitates to or is pumped and distributed over the land, passing finally through contact beds, storm water tanks being brought into operation during the periods of heavy rainfall and consequent increased flows. The whole of the effluent drains to a tributary of the river Hogsmill and amounts to about 1,600,000 gallons per day dry weather flow.

Sewage from Ewell and Cuddington (other than from a small area which discharges to the Sutton and Cheam Works) gravitates to the Ruxley Works. From the West Ewell district sewage is pumped to a balancing tank where it combines with sewage from Chessington within the Borough of Surbiton. Treatment is by settling tanks and percolating filters, and finally through humus tanks. Sludge is dealt with on sludge drying beds and storm water passes through a storm water tank. The whole of the effluent flows to the river Hogsmill, the dry weather flow being approximately 1,300,000 gallons per day. Further extensions to the Plant generally have recently been completed at a cost of approximately £30,000.

Cesspools

There are 101 cesspools in the Borough and at 15 premises pail or chemical closets are in use.

Cesspools (cont.)

During the year inspections have been carried out at all premises without main drainage and the Chief Sanitary Inspector prepared a full report giving details of existing drainage, sanitary conveniences and fittings, the general condition of the cesspools and remarks as to the possibility of connecting to the sewer.

The report is now under consideration of a Joint Cesspool Subcommittee and steps are being taken to arrange, where possible, for the provision of main drainage and abolition of cesspools.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES ON EPSOM DOWNS.

The Council's scheme for the extension of sewers and main water service on Epsom Downs was proceeded with during the year and arrangements were put in hand for the provision of mobile conveniences.

The sewer and main water service was extended on the north side of the Race Course, from the east end of the Grand Stand in the direction of Tattenham Corner, during the early part of the year and in September, extensions were carried out on the south side of the Course to complete this part of the Scheme.

Five trolley buses were purchased and are being converted into mobile conveniences, three for women and two for men. The Borough Engineer has reported that the vehicles are nearing completion and will be available for use at the Spring Race Meeting.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Three new public conveniences were erected during the year and are now in operation at High Street, Ewell, The Broadway, Stoneleigh and Chessington Road, West Ewell.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Collection of Refuse - The arrangements for public cleansing are carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

Trade refuse is removed by the Council under an arrangement whereby one bin of trade refuse is removed for every £40. of the rateable value of the premises, a standard charge being made for any additional quantity removed.

(b) Disposal of Refuse - Disposal of household and trade refuse continues to be partly by incineration at the Epsom Sewage Works, and partly by controlled tipping at the disused brick works in East Street. An important advantage of the latter system is the reclamation of useless land, which if left would tend to become a permanent eyesore and nuisance. If care is taken in the choice of the site for tipping no nuisance need be caused to residents in the neighbourhood.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Streams and surface water courses were inspected during the year and have been generally maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The Hogsmill

As a result of work carried out by the Surrey County Council in 1953, the Hogsmill and land adjoining is now in a better condition, particularly in the area of Worcester Park Road, where the waterlogged state of the ground had previously given rise to complaints of flooding and nuisance from the breeding of insects. The work, however, did not affect the condition of the stream itself, except by the increase of flow, and it

The Hogsmill (cont.)

is still in a very unsatisfactory state. The remedy for this is dependent on progress made with the Hogsmill Valley Joint Drainage Scheme, which is now well in hand.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The Municipal Baths are situated in East Street, Epsom, and comprise a covered swimming bath (convertible into a hall), turkish, foam and slipper baths and cafe. Swimming bath water is subjected to continuous filtration and chlorination. Frequent bacteriological examinations are made to test the efficiency of the purification process.

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the Borough open to the general public. The pool is equipped with plant for continuous filtration and chlorination, and the water is subjected to periodical bacteriological examination.

The other bathing pools in the Borough are provided in connection with schools and clubs and are not open to the general public.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, the action and the result of action taken in regard to these, will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION 4.

HOUSING

The information given below concerning housing inspections and the results is tabulated in the form required by the Ministry of Health. Fuller information of the subject is to be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

I.	Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-		
1.	(a)	Total number inspected	297
	(b)	Number of inspections made	985
2.	(a)	Inspected under Housing Acts	12
	(b)	Number of inspections made	113
3.		Number found unfit	12
4.		Number found not to be in all respects fit	78
II.	Remedy of defects:-		
		Number of houses rendered fit	63
III.	Action under Statutory Powers:-		
A.		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	-
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-		
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses	8
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:-	
	(a)	by owners	6
	(b)	by Local Authority	-
C.		Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	10
D.		Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	2

ERECTION OF NEW HOUSES

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information regarding the number of new houses erected during the year:-

Erected by local authority	103
Erected by private enterprise	188

Converted properties:-

(a)	by local authority	-
(b)	by private enterprise	2

RE-HOUSING OF TUBERCULOSIS PERSONS

Six houses were allocated to housing applicants in whose families there were tuberculous members. Since the war priority has been given to 83 cases under this heading.

SECTION 5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector indicates the effort which he and his assistants have made in the inspection and supervision of food, and in encouraging its careful and clean handling by all concerned. It also contains details of the work done in connection with sampling under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 of which the Council took over responsibility from the County Council on 1st April.

I am informed by the County Medical Officer of Health that during the first quarter of the year, in which the County Council were still acting, 18 samples were taken for analysis, one of which was found not to conform to the required standard.

SECTION 6. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1954 with the incidence rate per 1,000 population for each disease. The presence of several large hospitals in the district influences the incidence of infectious diseases. For example, the majority of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified from the Epsom District Hospital, though many of the patients were only resident in the Borough for the time of their confinement. The notifications of cases of Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers which are made with regularity are due to the existence of an obstinate focus of infection in one of the hospitals for mental disorders. A column has, therefore, been included in this table to show the number of notifications relating to patients in hospitals. Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases classified according to age and sex.

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

Vaccination against Smallpox

During the year notifications were received from medical practitioners of 469 primary vaccinations, and 197 re-vaccinations which had been performed by them. Of the primary vaccinations 387 related to children under the age of one year, equivalent to 59.3% of the number of births registered in the Borough during the year. The comparative figure for 1953 was 56%.

SCARLET FEVER

Forty-six cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, compared with 99 for the previous year. The incidence rate per 1,000 population was 0.68. The fact that 8 cases only were admitted to hospital was evidence that this illness continued to be mild in character.

DIPHTHERIA

For the first time since 1950 cases of diphtheria occurred in the Borough and eight notifications were received. The incidence rate was 0.12. The cases may be divided into 4 incidents for the purpose of description.

INCIDENT I. Involved one case, and occurred in April, when a schoolmaster aged 40 years, complained to his doctor of a sore throat. Routine bacterial investigation of a throat swab in the Epsom Public Health Laboratory showed the presence of diphtheria bacilli, later identified as belonging to the gravis type and toxigenic in character. Investigations of the patient's contacts at home and school were made, and it was found that one of his three children (all immunised last within two years of this occurrence) was carrying diphtheria bacilli of the same type as the patient, though he gave no history of illness. The school attended by this child was examined and among the 230 pupils six were found to be carrying diphtheria organisms of the same type. Though there was no evidence of illness among any of these children, they were admitted to hospital for observation where they were treated for periods varying from 4 to 8 weeks before being considered free from infection. Probably among

Diphtheria (cont.)

this group the originator of the outbreak was to be found, though no evidence was obtained to make identification possible. All these children give a history of effective immunisation, and the immunity state of the whole school was very high, and no doubt explains why there was no recognisable spread of infection until it was carried into a home in which there was a susceptible unimmunised adult. The children attending the school at which the patient taught were also thoroughly examined, with negative results.

INCIDENT II. Occurred in September and involved 2 cases. The patients were an adult female aged 35, who had never been immunised and her 6 year old son who had been immunised at regular intervals, most recently in October, 1953. Following a complaint of a sore throat the woman was swabbed and bacterial examination in the Public Health Laboratory, Epsom, showed the presence of diphtheria organisms of mitis type, toxigenic in character. The boy was found to be carrying similar organisms after a routine swabbing of contacts. He gave a history of a mild feverish illness, of short duration, 3 weeks previously. Both were admitted to hospital for treatment and made uninterrupted recoveries.

INCIDENT III. Occurred in October and involved one case. The patient was an adult female who had not been immunised. Following a complaint of sore throat and loss of voice, she was swabbed and found to be carrying diphtheria organisms of gravis type, toxigenic in character. No spread of the disease occurred. It was not possible to ascertain the source of her infection.

INCIDENT IV. Occurred in December in a ward of a hospital for mental diseases situated in the district and involved four adult males. Following the isolation of diphtheria organisms of gravis type from a patient showing evidence of a mild attack of the disease, other patients in the ward were examined and a second patient was found to have clinical evidence of throat infection. Diphtheria organisms of the same type were isolated from his swab. This man had been admitted to the hospital a week or two earlier from an address in London, and it is possible he may have introduced the infection. Two other patients were found to be carrying organisms of the same type without clinical evidence of infection. No history of immunisation was obtained on any of the cases.

To summarise, there was no connection between any of the outbreaks. Each outbreak was easily controlled by isolation of the patients and swabbing of throats of close contacts. Seven of the patients were unimmunised adults. The only child to be affected showed minimal signs of illness.

Reference to Table VI indicates the course which the incidence of this disease has taken since 1934.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The aim is for every child to receive a primary treatment in its first year of life with reinforcing treatments every 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life. It is not claimed even with such treatment that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district, of which details are set out on page 9. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools are arranged as required by the Divisional Medical Officer for pupils requiring treatment.

Diphtheria Immunisation (cont)

Notifications were received that 696 children received primary treatment and that 2,052 received reinforcing doses. Possibly some children may have been treated privately or in other districts, about whom information has not been received. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schools	425	1,851
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>271</u>	<u>201</u>
	<u>696</u>	<u>2,052</u>

In the case of 296 infants the treatment was completed before reaching the age of one year.

At the end of the year it was estimated that 71.4% of children under the age of 15 years had been treated and were still in an effective state of immunity. The comparable figure for 1953 was 68%.

With the materials now available it is possible to combine diphtheria, whooping-cough and tetanus immunisation in one series of injections.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

One case was notified during the year, this being of the non-paralytic type and mild in character.

The incidence rate was 0.01. These figures compare with 11 cases and an incidence rate of 0.16 in 1953.

MEASLES

Seventy-one cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 832 for 1953. The case rate per 1,000 population was 1.06. No deaths were recorded from the disease during the year.

DYSENTERY

One hundred and twenty-eight cases of dysentery were notified during the year, ten of which were in patients in mental hospitals. Those occurring in hospital were of the Flexner type; the remainder were of the Sonne type. Bacteriological examinations were positive in all cases.

It was usually found that several members of the household gave a history of intestinal upset, though not all were ill enough to have considered it necessary to consult their doctor. It was evident that the cases notified represented only a proportion of the total affected, and that many persons were continuing their normal activities while in an infectious state. It was seldom possible to determine the exact source of infection of the first case occurring in the household, but in the majority the patient was a school child. It seemed probable, therefore, that as with most infectious diseases, the opportunity for spread of infection occurred most frequently in school. Acting on this assumption

Dysentery (cont.)

the Divisional School Medical Officer gave special attention to raising standards of hygiene in the worst affected schools. In particular, the use of the communal towel was condemned, and its place taken by paper towels during the epidemic period. This change in practice is one which, if possible, should be made permanent.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Forty-five cases were notified, giving an incidence rate of 68.3 per 1,000 live and still births compared with 30 cases and a rate of 43.3 in 1953. Forty-two of the notifications were received from the maternity unit of the Epsom District Hospital, 31 of them relating to patients who were admitted for their confinements from addresses outside the Borough. Two notifications related to confinements in private houses, and 1 in a nursing home.

WHOOPING COUGH

One hundred and fourteen cases of whooping cough were notified during the year, the incidence rate being 1.70 per 1,000 population compared with 3.49 in 1953. No deaths were registered from the disease.

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Notifications were received from various sources that 566 children had received a primary course and 139 children had received reinforcing doses. The majority received the treatment in combination with immunisation against diphtheria.

FOOD POISONING

Ten cases of food poisoning were notified during the year giving an incidence rate of 0.15 per 1,000 population. In 1953 there were 42 notifications with an incidence rate of 0.62. In 1 case the causative organism was the staphylococcus aureus, and in 5 the salmonella typhimurium. In 1 case the causative organism was not isolated.

With the exception of three patients, who were inmates of a hospital at the time of being infected, there was no obvious association between the cases.

TUBERCULOSIS

Registration of Notified Persons

During the year the names of 136 persons were added to the tuberculosis register, and 86 removed. Details of these alterations were as follows:-

Tuberculosis (cont.)

<u>ADDITIONS TO REGISTER</u>		<u>REMOVALS FROM REGISTER</u>	
Formal notifications relating to private residents already residing in the district	35	By Removals to other districts	
Transfers of private residents notified in other areas, now residing in this district	34	(a) Private residents	42
		(b) Patients in institutions	2
Notifications of persons residing in institutions		By Recovery	
Formal	50	(a) Private residents	18
Transfer	10	(b) Patients in institutions	4
Posthumous notifications			
In institutions	1	By Death (see footnote)	
In private households	2		
Restored		(a) Private residents	10
Private residents	<u>4</u>	(b) Patients in institutions	<u>10</u>
	136		86

In 5 cases the cause of death was not tuberculosis

In addition 10 deaths assigned to the Borough occurred in institutions and were of persons whose names were on the register of other districts.

In 2 cases the deaths of notified persons were assigned to other districts.

At the end of the year the number of names on the register was as follows:-

	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
In private residence	236	179	27	14
In non-private residence	<u>78</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>
	314	201	35	19

In addition the names of 76 patients in mental hospitals are known to be on the registers of other authorities.

Notification

Eighty-five formal or primary notifications were received from medical practitioners of persons certified to be suffering from tuberculosis. In Table VII these are classified by sex and age and into pulmonary and non-pulmonary types of disease. The table is also sub-divided to show whether the patient is a private resident or hospital patient.

Other names added to the register were those of 48 persons who came to reside in the Borough.

Three posthumous notifications were received.

Of the names restored, 2 were of patients who relapsed three years after apparent recovery, and 2 were of persons returning to reside in the Borough.

Tuberculosis (cont)

The incidence of tuberculosis in the mental hospitals as shown by these figures requires explanation. Firstly, the alteration in the administrative procedure has lead to the retention on the local register of the names of any hospital patient notified, whereas formerly such notifications would have been forwarded to the area from which he was admitted. Secondly, a review of the notification state of hospital patients commenced in 1953, was continued, and lead to the notification or re-notification of some persons known to be suffering from tuberculosis but whose previous notification could not be traced. This review has now been completed and in future years the figures of notification of hospital patients will give a more realistic picture of the incidence of tuberculosis within these institutions. Thirdly, each year a large number of new patients are admitted, all of whom are carefully investigated for evidence of infection with tuberculosis with positive findings in a number of cases. Fourthly, full use is made of radiography to examine all patients at regular intervals, and the chances of infection with tuberculosis being overlooked are smaller than in the case of private residents.

Deaths

Twenty-seven deaths from tuberculosis were assigned to the Borough giving a death-rate of 0.39, the figure for 1953 being 23 deaths and a rate of 0.31. The death-rate compared unfavourably with the rate of 0.18 for England and Wales, for the same reason given when the high general death-rate was discussed in Section I. In the case of this disease 18 of the deaths were of patients in mental hospitals.

The analysis of deaths from tuberculosis in Table VIII is subdivided into deaths of private residents and those of mental hospital patients

Incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Children

Reference to Table VII shows that 4 of the 33 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified in private residents were in children under the age of 15 years, and that 4 were in the age group 15 - 19 years, of whom 1 was still at school and 3 had taken up their first employment. In the case of 3 of the children in the younger age group, the source of the infection was found in an adult member of their families, whose condition had hitherto been unsuspected. In the remaining case in this group careful investigation of home and school contacts failed to reveal the source of infection. In the older age group three of the 4 affected had entered their first employment and had made many recent new contacts. It is not surprising that the source of their infection remained untraced. The fourth case of this group was still at school and it was possible to exclude the family and the present school attended as providing the source of infection. In the history of his previous schooling, however, it was found that he had attended a school, not in Surrey, at which a member of the staff had been found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, after a period of ill health during which he continued his duties as a teacher. Other cases of tuberculosis were traced to the same source of infection, though none of them affected this district. The matter is mentioned to illustrate the importance of regular examination by radiography of the chest for all persons whose duties bring them into close and prolonged contact with children, and particularly for all members of the teaching profession.

B.C.G. Vaccination

As reported last year, the Ministry of Health were prepared to consider schemes for the treatment with B.C.G. vaccine of schoolchildren between 14 and 15 years. The members of this age group were selected because of the inevitable increased rate of infection which they incur on leaving school to take up employment as exemplified in the previous

B.C.G. Vaccination (cont.)

paragraph. The Surrey County Council submitted a scheme which received the approval of the Ministry, the operation of which was commenced during the year. Dr. P. H. R. Anderson, Divisional Medical Officer for the Central Division of the County Health service has given the information that in schools in the Borough, there were 647 children in the age group concerned to whom treatment was offered; parental consent was obtained in 488 (74.8%); preliminary Mantoux testing was positive, and treatment unnecessary in 53 children (11%) and that 428 children were vaccinated representing 66.1% of the age group to whom it was offered. The result can be regarded as a very successful start to the scheme in this part of the Central Division.

A considerable number of children belonging to families in which there was a known source of infection were also tested and, when necessary, treated with B.C.G. This is a valuable procedure, but often infection has already been spread under such circumstances before the nature of the illness has been diagnosed, and this occurred in some of the cases mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

EPSOM, LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT CARE COMMITTEE

The Epsom, Leatherhead and District Tuberculosis Care Committee has continued its work with energy during the year under the Chairmanship of Alderman Mrs. A. Winter. The Secretary of the Committee is Miss M. Wright, who is also the Surrey County Council's Care Almoner in the area, and the Treasurer is Mr. T. L. Flanagan, of the Epsom Branch of the Westminster Bank. Members of the Committee include representatives of the Borough Council, the Leatherhead Urban District Council, Associations and Societies interested in social welfare, and officers engaged in work connected with health, welfare and relief. Thus the Committee is in a good position to help solve the special problems of the tuberculosis person and the household to which he belongs, and much valuable work has been done.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

During the year visits were paid to the Borough by the Mass Radiography Unit. I am indebted to the Medical Director of the Unit for the information that approximately 2,000 males and 2,300 females took the opportunity to be examined. Among them were found 3 persons with active pulmonary tuberculosis, 67 with inactive pulmonary tuberculosis and 85 with non-tuberculous abnormalities.

TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEARS 1953-1954

	1954	1953
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births	9.7	10.0
Still Births	0.09	0.19
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes	17.0	17.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis	0.40	0.34
Influenza	-	0.25
Smallpox	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	-	-
Pneumonia	0.80	1.09
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.06	-
Meningococcal Infections	0.03	-
Scarlet Fever	0.68	1.46
Whooping Cough	1.70	3.49
Diphtheria	0.12	-
Erysipelas	0.21	0.18
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	1.06	12.31
Pneumonia	0.83	1.51
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	-	0.10
non-Paralytic	0.01	0.06
Food Poisoning	0.15	0.62
Dysentery	1.91	0.49
Tuberculosis	1.25	1.09
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>		
Under 1 year of age	13.8	20.6
Under 4 weeks of age	12.3	16.2
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births</u>		
Still Births	9.1	18.8
Puerperal Pyrexia (Notification of)	68.3	43.35
Maternal Mortality	-	2.89

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1931 - 1954.

Period	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Annual Rates 1951-1954)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population (Annual Rates 1951-1954)		Average Annual Death Rate of children under 1 year of age, per 1,000 Live Births (Annual Rates 1951-1954)	
	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell	England and Wales	Epsom and Ewell
1931 - 1940	14.9	12.6	12.3	7.3	58	41
1941 - 1950	16.9	14.2	12.3	9.4	43	28.4 (26 +)
1951	15.5	10.6 (11.2 x)	12.5	10.6 (10.2 x)	29.6	27.6 (20 +)
1952	15.3	9.9 (10.4 x)	11.3	9.0 (8.7 x)	27.6	20.9 (14 +)
1953	15.5	10.0 (11.2 x)	11.4	17.0 (14.9 x)	26.8	20.6 (14 +)
1954	15.2	9.7 (10.9 x)	11.3	17.0 (15.0 x)	25.5	13.8 (9 +)

x Bracketed figures represent standardised rate

+ Bracketed figures represent number of deaths

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

	In Private Residence	In Mental Hospitals	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	8	18	26
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	5	10	15
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	4	-	4
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	13	6	19
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	23	5	28
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	17	2	19
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	2	1	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	60	16	76
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	2	3	5
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	102	48	150
18. Coronary disease, angina	94	25	119
19. Hypertension with heart disease	9	8	17
20. Other heart disease	115	205	320
21. Other circulatory disease	12	37	49
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	16	38	54
24. Bronchitis	24	10	34
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	6	7
26. Ulcer of the stomach or duodenum	9	2	11
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	4	-	4
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	6	3	9
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	11	3	14
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	-	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	54	44	98
33. Motor vehicle accidents	7	2	9
34. All other accidents	14	20	34
35. Suicide	8	3	11
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	624	517	1,141

TABLE IV

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES WITH INCIDENCE RATES

	Notifications of Members of Private Households	Notifications of Inmates of Hospitals	Total	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population
Typhoid Fever	-	1	1	0.01
Paratyphoid	-	4	4	0.06
Meningococcal Infections	2	-	2	0.03
Scarlet Fever	45	1	46	0.68
Whooping Cough	114	-	114	1.70
Diphtheria	4	4	8	0.12
Erysipelas	12	2	14	0.21
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	71	-	71	1.06
Pneumonia	56	-	56	0.83
Poliomyelitis:-				
Paralytic	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	1	-	1	0.01
Food Poisoning	7	3	10	0.15
Dysentery	118	10	128	1.91
Malaria:-				
(contractcd abroad)	1	-	1	0.01
(Indigenous)	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis:-				
Respiratory	33	49	82	1.21
Non-Respiratory	2	1	3	0.04
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	42	45	See Footnote

Incidence rate of Puerperal Pyrexia 68.3 per 1,000 live and still births.

TABLE V

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE BY AGE AND SEX

	Under 1 year		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 years & over		All Ages		Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	2	1	4	5	18	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	2	6	8	14	20	21	38	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	1	3	3	6	5	25	21	1	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	9	4	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Poliomyelitis:-																					
paralytic																					
non-paralytic																					
Food Poisoning																					
Puerperal Pyrexia																					
Dysentery																					
Malaria																					

TABLE VI

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWEILL

Year	Number of cases notified in the period 1934-1954.	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population.	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population.
1934 - 1938	99	0.40	0.016
1939 - 1943	49	0.16	0.004
1944 - 1948	30	0.09	0.004
1949 - 1953	1	--	--
1954	8	0.12	--

TABLE VII

FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

<u>Year</u>	<u>Private Residents</u>				<u>Hospital Patients</u>				<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Under 1 year										
1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
19	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
24	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3
34	7	5	-	-	7	2	-	-	-	14
44	3	1	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	10
54	1	3	1	-	9	2	-	-	-	11
55	-	2	-	-	6	2	-	1	-	6
64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years & over	-	-	-	-	10	2	-	-	-	10
TOTAL	17	16	2	-	40	9	-	1	-	59
										26

TABLE VIII

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS BY AGE AND SEX

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deaths of Private Residents</u>			<u>Deaths of Hospitals Patients</u>			<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>		
Under 1 year								
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	1	-	-	1	-	1	3	-
44	2	-	-	3	1	-	5	1
54	-	-	-	3	1	-	3	1
55	2	-	-	5	-	-	7	-
64	2	2	-	3	-	-	5	2
65 & over								
TOTAL	7	2	-	15	2	1	23	4

TABLE IX

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY 1934-1954

<u>Year</u>	<u>Formal and Posthumous Notifications</u>		<u>Average Annual No. of Deaths</u> <u>(Annual Number 1954)</u>	<u>Average Annual Death Rate</u> <u>per 1,000 Population</u> <u>(Annual Rates 1954)</u>
1934 - 1938	Average Annual No. (Annual No. 1954)	Annual Average Rate per 1,000 Population (Annual Rate 1954)		
	44	0.78	18	0.35
1939 - 1943	72	1.11	33	0.52
1944 - 1948	81	1.15	25	0.36
1949 - 1953	69	0.96	19	0.28
1954	87	1.30	27	0.40

From 1953 this table includes notifications and deaths of patients in mental hospitals.

Public Health Department,
West Hill House,
West Hill,
EPSOM,
Surrey.

July, 1955.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my eighteenth Annual Report which relates to the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during 1954 and compiled in accordance with the requirements of Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

The report gives details of the various inspections and duties performed, also a summary of nuisances abated, defects remedied and other matters attended to. Six thousand, five hundred and seventy-three inspections and visits were made during the year and over 900 complaints investigated. The number of Notices served was slightly below the average, but a considerable amount of work was carried out as a result of verbal requests and advice given by the Sanitary Inspectors in the course of their inspections.

On the 1st April, 1954, the Council became a Food and Drugs Authority and since this date, formal and informal samples have been taken by the Sanitary Inspectors as Sampling Officers. These additional duties and responsibilities form an important link with other public health services in the Borough and provide for greater supervision and protection of the public food supply.

A considerable amount of work was carried out during the year for the improvement and repair of houses and a number of premises found unfit for habitation and beyond repair were reported to the Public Health Committee.

The demolition or closure of unfit houses is largely dependent upon the availability of accommodation for re-housing purposes. As there are at present over 800 eligible applicants on the Council's waiting list, many of them urgent and very deserving cases, the Housing Committee has already a formidable task, particularly as it is becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable sites for new houses. While the question of re-housing families from unfit houses adds to this problem, the absence of alternative accommodation is a serious handicap to the Public Health Committee in dealing with unfit property. It will, however, be seen in the Housing section of this report that a number of Demolition and Closing Orders were made and other properties will be considered as soon as re-housing is possible.

A Joint Cesspools Sub-Committee has been appointed to examine and report on the question of cesspools in the Borough and their abolition in favour of direct drainage to sewers. All cesspools known to exist have been inspected during the year and I have submitted a full report to the Sub-Committee on their general condition which is now under consideration.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and consideration, my gratitude to Dr. Ive, the Medical Officer of Health, for his advice and co-operation and sincere appreciation of the efficient and conscientious service rendered by my staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. H. C. HAGGER.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Summary of Inspections and Visits.

Public Health Act, 1936, inspections		585
Public Health Act, 1936, reinspections		940
Housing Act, 1936 inspections		12
Housing Act, 1936 reinspections		113
Visits to work in progress (not included above)		728
Visits in connection with Infectious Disease		969
" " " " Overcrowding		9
" " " " Complaints		375
Inspections and visits regarding drainage		539
Inspections and visits regarding cesspools		141
Number of drainage tests carried out	181	-
Visited regarding rate and mice infestation (not including visits of rodent operatives)		78
Visits regarding other vermin and insect pests		168
Inspections of Caravans, Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc.		30
" " Vacant Lands and Dumps		17
" " Rivers and Streams		3
" " Stables and Piggeries		77
" " Public Conveniences		50
" " Swimming Baths and Pools		10
" " Theatres and Cinemas		3
" " Schools		26
" " Offices		3
" " Licensed Premises		29
" regarding Fireguard Regulations		4
Smoke Observations		19

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

	No. on Register	
Inspections of Factories, (with power)	140	70
" " " (without power)	25	2
" " Workplaces	8	5
" " Outworkers' Rooms	-	25

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections and visits regarding shop hours, conditions of employment of shop assistants, etc.	173
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FOOD PREMISES - INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Bakehouses	11	40
Bakers and Confectioners		12
Butchers	37	77
Dairies and Milkshops		7
Fishmongers and Poulterers		21
Food Vans and Vehicles		52
Fried Fish Shops		5
Greengrocers and Fruiterers		57
Grocers and Provision Shops		114
Ice-cream Premises	110	78
Manufacture or preparation of Preserved Food	27	18
Miscellaneous Food Premises		25
Public Market and Food Stalls		7
Restaurants, Cafes and Dining Rooms		78
Slaughterhouses	3	101
Visits regarding Unsound Food		255
Miscellaneous visits and inspections not included above		423
Total		6,573

SAMPLING

Samples under Food and Drugs Act	91
Ice-cream samples and Iced Lollies	26
Milk samples (bacteriological)	129
Water samples from:-	
Main supplies (domestic)	19
Mental Hospitals - private wells (untreated)	64
" " - main supply and treated	19
Epson Downs Food Trader	1
Swimming Baths and Pools	11

COMPLAINTS

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of premises	97
Flooding	14
Choked or defective drains	128
Defective dustbins	2
Offensive accumulations	10
Keeping of animals or poultry	9
Rat or mice infestation	517
Nuisance from flies or other insect pests	44
Vermin	8
Offensive smells	27
Unsound food	21
Milk supply, milk bottles, etc.	3
Factory and Shops Acts	3
Overcrowding	4
Smoke	9
Miscellaneous	32
	<hr/>
	928
	<hr/>

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS

Number of premises where nuisances or defects found	114
Number of nuisances or defects found	613

NOTICES

Number of Notices served under the following Acts:-

Public Health Act, 1936	(Statutory)	8
" " " "	(Informal)	101
Housing Act, 1936	(Statutory)	11
" " " "	(Informal)	-
Factories Act, 1937	"	6
Shops Act, 1950	"	1
Food and Drugs Acts, 1938	"	17
		<hr/>
		144
		<hr/>
Number of Notices outstanding at end of year		15

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED, DEFECTS REMEDIED
AND OTHER SANITARY MATTERS ATTENDED TO

Choked drains cleared	120
Drains repaired or relaid	78
Inspection chambers built or repaired	63
W.C's repaired or renewed	27
W.C's cleaned	4
W.C's flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	7
W.C's new or additional	57
Soil vent pipes or F.A.I's repaired or renewed	19
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	17
New gullies provided	41
New sinks or wash basins provided or renewed	83
Water service pipes repaired or renewed	6
Cesspools repaired or emptied	12
Cesspools abolished	11
Cesspools new	2
New dustbins provided	10
Yard paving provided or repaired	7
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	7
Roofs repaired	30
Eaves guttering or rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	55
Walls (external) rendered, re-pointed or repaired	7
Walls replastered or repaired	32
Ceilings replastered or repaired	28
Walls and ceilings cleaned and redecorated	43
Floors repaired or renewed	7
Fireplaces or ranges repaired or renewed	27
Stairs repaired or renewed	1
Doors repaired or renewed	5
Windows repaired or renewed	10
Sashcords provided or renewed	13
Additional lighting and ventilation provided	1
Dampness remedied	19
Food stores ventilated, repaired or cleansed	3
Rooms disinfected after Tuberculosis	11
Disinfection on request (cost defrayed)	8
Rooms, etc. sprayed for flies or other insect pests	33
Bakehouses cleansed	5
Slaughterhouses, stables or pigsties cleansed	7
Keeping of animals - nuisances abated	3
Offensive accumulations removed	5
Miscellaneous defects remedied	86

HOUSING

Statistics relating to the inspection of dwelling-houses and the erection of new houses in the Borough have already been given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health (see page 13)

The figures show that 297 dwelling-houses were inspected during the year, 12 houses were found unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost and 78 were not in all respects reasonably fit.

Informal Notices were served on the owners of the 78 houses capable of repair and at the end of the year 63 had been rendered fit.

Official Representations were made in respect of the dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation and some of these cases are still under consideration.

Unfit Houses

The following dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation were dealt with during the year in consequence of official representation:-

"Rose Cottage", Woodcote Side, Epsom.

Premises completely demolished 15/6/54 in compliance with requirements of Demolition Order outstanding at the end of 1953.

10, Woodlands Road, Epsom.

Official Representation made 24/6/54. Premises de-requisitioned and demolished 12/8/54.

27, Temple Road, Epsom.

Closing Order made 20/2/54. Tenant re-housed by the Council 17/5/54.

47, South Street, Epsom.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 24/6/54. Closing Order made 22/12/54 in respect of the whole house, part of which is vacant. Remaining occupants awaiting re-housing.

75, Bracken Path, Epsom.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 24/6/54. Closing Order made 22/12/54 in respect of the whole of the house. Tenant being re-housed by the Council.

3, Prospect Place, Epsom.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 30/9/54. Closing Order under consideration.

33, Ashley Road, Epsom.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 30/9/54. Closing Order made 22/12/54 in respect of part of building comprising flat on first floor. Tenant awaiting re-housing.

98 and 100, Kingston Road, Ewell.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 25/3/54. Demolition Order made 22/12/54 in respect of each premises as individual unfit house. Tenants awaiting re-housing.

30, 32, 34 and 36, Woodcote Green Road, Epsom.

Demolition Order made 22/12/54 in respect of each premises as individual unfit house. Nos. 32, 34 and 36 vacant. Tenant of No. 30 awaiting alternative accommodation.

86, Kingston Road, Ewell.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 25/3/54. While matter under consideration, owner carried out repairs and rendered the premises fit for human habitation. Premises re-occupied 14/8/54.

88, Kingston Road, Ewell.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 25/3/54. Action deferred as premises unoccupied and owner had previously given an undertaking not to re-let. Matter under further consideration at end of year.

102, Kingston Road, Ewell.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 25/3/54 - premises vacant. Undertaking accepted from the owner that the house will not be used for human habitation.

9 and 10, Castle View, Epsom Common.

Official Representation submitted to Committee 25/11/54, as individual unfit houses. Matter under consideration at end of year.

1 and 2, Priesthill Farm Cottages, Banstead Road, Ewell.

1 and 2, Priesthill Farm Cottages, off Cheam Road, Ewell.

In consequence of farm land being taken over by the London County Council (Education Department), these four cottages and the farm buildings were demolished in November, 1954.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This Act came into operation on the 30th August, 1954, and deals with two important aspects of housing. First the repair and demolition of houses and secondly rent increases for repairs.

The Act requires local authorities to submit to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, within a year, proposals for dealing with houses which appear to the Authority to be unfit for human habitation. Section 9 of the Act lays down a standard to be applied in judging the fitness of houses and Section 16 makes certain amendments in the statutory conditions attached to the payment of improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949.

Certificates of Disrepair.

Provision is made under the Act for landlords whose property is in good condition to claim a repairs increase, but if the landlord serves on the tenant a Notice to this effect, the tenant may, if he feels the house is not in sufficiently good condition, apply to the local authority for a Certificate of Disrepair. If the Certificate is granted, and the tenant sends a copy to the landlord, the increase in rent is not payable until the Certificate is revoked.

Up to the end of the year, only three applications for certificates had been received. In the first case, it was found that the Notice which the tenant had received from the landlord applied to increased cost of services and not to repairs. Under these circumstances a certificate could not be issued. In the second case, the application was in order, but the landlord attended to the defects and the application was withdrawn. In the third case, the application was in order and a Certificate of Disrepair was granted.

Overcrowding.

In the course of investigating complaints and applications for housing accommodation, six families have been found to be living under overcrowded conditions, but only in two cases was it possible for the Council to offer alternative accommodation.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Six houses were dealt with for bug infestation. In each case the rooms affected were thoroughly sprayed with insecticide and where necessary, bedding, etc., was removed for steam disinfection.

Subsequent inspections were made and in no case was any re-infestation reported.

Schools.

Twenty-six inspections and visits by the Sanitary Inspectors were made during the year to Schools in the Borough, including private schools. Minor repairs to drainage and sanitary fittings were found necessary.

There are twenty-five private schools in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

- (1) Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	140	70	6	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	5	-	-
TOTAL	173	77	6	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found:				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences (not relating to outwork)	19	19	-	-	-
TOTAL	31	31	-	1	-

(3) Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Outworkers in Aug. list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (6)	Notices Served (7)	Prosecutions (8)
Wearing apparel (making, etc. Cleansing and washing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	-	-	-	-	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

The number of milk distributors and dairy premises (other than dairy farms) in the Borough, registered in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, is as follows:-

Retail Purveyors (with premises in the Borough)	4
" " (from outside the Borough)	8
Milk Receiving Depots	4
Shops from which bottled milk is sold	18

Milk Licences

The following licences to sell gtaded milk were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949, during the year 1954:-

	Dealers	Supplementary
"Tuberculin Tested"	10	6
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	-	2
"Pasteurised"	10	7
"Sterilised"	<u>20</u>	<u>7</u>
	40	22

Milk Sampling

During the year, 129 samples of milk were taken from milk distributors, including supplies to local hospitals and schools, and submitted for bacteriological examination.

The following summary gives details of the grades of milk sampled and results of the examination:-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	23
"Pasteurised"	102
"Sterilised"	3
Ordinary Milk (untreated)	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>129</u>

Results of Tests:-

	Methylene Blue Test Ø		Phosphates Test X		Turbidity Test	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
"T.T. Pasteurised"	23	-	23	-	-	-
"Pasteurised"	98	4	102	-	-	-
"Sterilised"	-	-	-	-	3	-
Ordinary Milk (untreated)	1	-	-	-	-	-
	122	4	125	-	3	-

Ø Methylene Blue Test not applied to 3 samples
X Phosphatase " " " " 4 "

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Slaughterhouses

With the end of meat rationing on the 3rd July, 1954, and the decontrol of meat and livestock, private slaughtering was resumed and the question of licensing private slaughterhouses had to be considered.

Prior to the War, very little slaughtering took place in the district and apart from the slaughterhouses at local Mental Hospitals, which were not used for trade purposes, the only private slaughterhouse available was at High Street, Ewell, and owned by Mr. J. Cracknell, Butcher. This was an old "registered" slaughterhouse and had been used only occasionally during the War. The premises were below the standard of modern requirements and the owner agreed that the expense of carrying out necessary repairs and improvements was not justified. He therefore decided not to apply for a licence.

The question of the provision of slaughtering facilities in the Borough was considered by the Public Health Committee, but as there was no evidence of a demand for a public slaughterhouse, the Committee decided to take no action in the matter.

At the request of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, arrangements are made for the inspection of all animals after slaughter at the three slaughterhouses in use at Mental Hospitals in the Borough.

The following summary relates to the inspection of animals after slaughter at the private and hospital slaughterhouses during the year:-

Carcases inspected and condemned:-

	Oattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	6	53	114	3	81
Number inspected	6	53	114	3	81
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	11	1	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	16.66%	20.75%	1.75%	-	2.47%
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.23%

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 - 1954

One application for licence and eight applications for the renewal of licences to slaughter animals under the above Acts were received and considered by the Council. In each case the licence was granted, and the fees amounting to 10/- (ten shillings), were forwarded to the Borough Treasurer.

Butchers' Shops

There are thirty-seven butchers' shops in the Borough all of which have been periodically inspected during the year, seventy-seven visits and inspections being made.

A refrigerator or other means of cold storage is provided at each shop and all have permanent glass windows as shop fronts.

The standard of cleanliness in butchers' shops has, on the whole, been satisfactory, and only in a few cases was it necessary to serve Notices. At one butcher's shop a new cold store was provided.

Condemned Meat and Other Foods

The following meat and other foods were inspected at shops and food stores within the Borough and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Meat and Offal	1493 lbs	Sugar	168½ lbs
Sausages	25 lbs	Tinned Fruit	448 tins
Cooked Meat	9 lbs	Tinned Vegetables	551 tins
Tinned Meat	388 tins	Mushrooms	40 lbs
Pork Pies	56	Jam and Marmalade	89 jars
Paste	328 jars	Milk	108 tins
Rabbits	60 lbs	Rice and Sago	56 lbs
Fish	20 stone	Fruit Puddings	48
Butter and Margarine	82 lbs	Sponge Mix	36 pkts
Tinned Fish	592 tins	Biscuits	3 lbs
Cooking Fat	84 lbs	Sweets	(1 box
Bacon	1 lb		(1¾ lbs
Cheese	(25½lbs	Soup	939 tins
	(3 boxes	Sauce	18 bottles
Cheese Spread	13 pkts	Other Foodstuffs	151 tins, jars
Dried Fruit	136½lbs		or packets

Wherever possible, foodstuffs found unfit for human consumption are disposed of for animal feeding (if not diseased) or utilised for other practical purposes to avoid waste.

Bakehouses

Forty inspections and visits were made during the year to the eleven bakehouses on the register.

At six bakehouses matters were found requiring attention and the following is a summary of the work carried out as a result of verbal or written notices:-

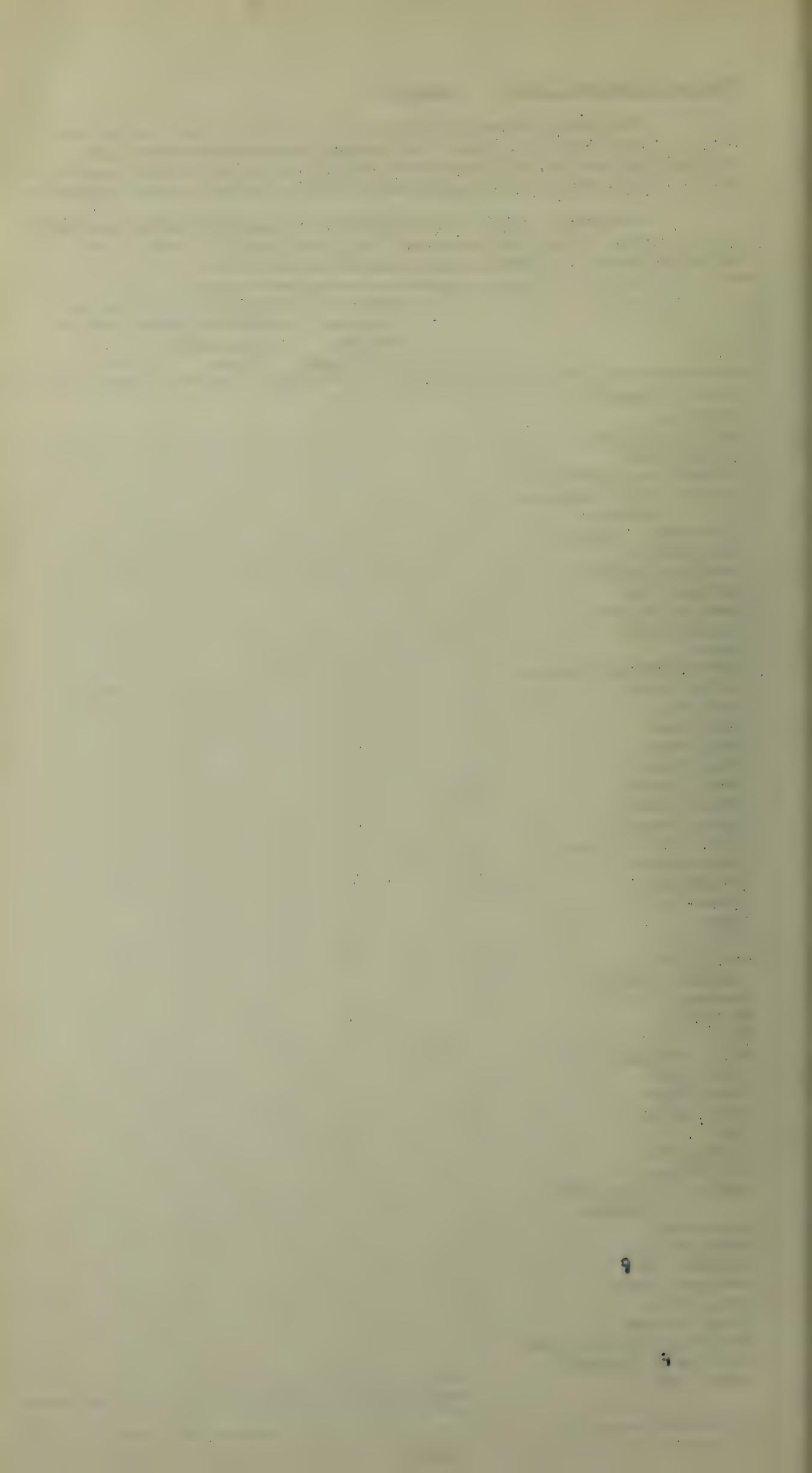
Cleansing of walls and ceilings	5
Repairs to drainage and sanitary accommodation	1
Repair of floors	1
Treatment for mice infestation	2
Removal of rubbish and cleansing of yard	1
Miscellaneous matters	3

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - Sampling.

The Council became a Food and Drugs Authority on the 1st April, 1954. Since this date, formal and informal samples have been taken regularly by the Sanitary Inspectors as Sampling Officers and forwarded to Mr. D.D. Moir, who has been appointed as Public Analyst to the Corporation.

Ninety-one samples were submitted for analysis during the period of nine months ending 31st December, 1954, and as will be seen in the following summary, covered a wide range of commodities:-

Article	Number of Samples Examined.		Reported adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Almonds, ground		2		
Arrowroot		1		
Aspirin, Tablets		1		
Baking Powder		1		
Barley Water Crystals		1		
Biscuit, Milk Chocolate Sandwich	1			
Blackcurrant Juice		1		
Black Pudding	1			
Calamine Ointment		1		
Chemical Food		1		
Cherries, Glace	1			
Chocolate Roll	1			
Cocoa		1		
Coffee & Chicory Essence		1		
Coffee Powder		1		
Cornflour		1		
Cough Cure		1		
Cough Sweets		1		
Cough Syrup		1		
Cream, Double		1		
Custard Powder		2		
Figs, Syrup of		1		
Flour - Self Raising	1	1		
Gees Linctus		1		
Glucose Drink		1		
Glycerine		1		
Honey		1		
Jam		1		
Jelly, Table		2		
Lemonade Crystals		1		
Macaroni		1		
Margarine	3	2		
Milk	19			
Milk, Condensed		1		
Paste, Fish	1			
Paste, Meat		1		
Pearl Barley		2		
Peel		1		
Pepper, White		1		
Pie Filling		1		
Quinine - Ammoniated Tincture		1		
Saccharine		1		
Salad Cream		1		
Sausages, Beef	2			
Sausages, Pork	6	1		
Soup, Tomato		1		
Sponge Mixture		2		1
Stuffing, Sage and Onion		1		
Suet, Beef, Shredded		2		2
Sugar, Icing		1		
	36	50	-	3



Article	Number of Samples Examined		Reported adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity.	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Brought Forward	36	50	-	3
Sultanas	1			
Sweets	1	1		
Vinegar	1	1		
TOTAL	39	52	-	3

The following details relate to samples reported on unfavourably and action taken:-

Sample No. and date taken,	Article	Infringement	Action Taken
16 1/6/54	Suet, Beef Shredded	Beef Fat 79.3% by weight	Both samples of Shredded Suet were from the same manufacturer.
53 15/7/54	Suet, Beef Shredded	Beef Fat 79.7% by weight <u>NOTE:</u> Shredded Suet shall contain not less than 83% by weight of Beef Fat. (The Food Standards (Suet) Order, 1952)	Warning letter sent Assurance given by manufacturer that product is based on correct standard, but slight deficiency may result from disturbance in balance of mixture
86 13/12/54	Sponge Mixture	Sweetened Flour mixture infested with insects, insect excreta	Remaining stock (36 packets) surrendered by retailer and destroyed

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14.

Twenty-seven premises are registered under this Section for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

Food Shops and other Food Premises.

During the year, considerable time was devoted to the routine inspection of food shops and other premises where food is prepared. The register of all such premises includes the following:-

Bakehouses	11
Bakers	21
Butchers	37
Cafes and Restaurants	53
Confectioners	61
Dairies and Milkshops	22
Fishmongers (wet and dry)	17
Fried Fish Shops	7
Greengrocers	45
Grocers and General Stores	90
Ice-cream Retailers	110

A substantial amount of structural and cleansing work has been carried out in food shops, also in cafes and kitchens. Much of this work has been done at the request, or on the advice of the Sanitary Inspectors.

The following matters have been attended to during the year as a result of verbal or written notices:-

Constant supply of hot water provided	7
Cleansing or repair of walls and ceilings of shops, storerooms, staff rooms, W.C's, etc.	25
New sinks or wash-hand basins provided	2
Repairs to drainage or sanitary fittings	2
Renewals or repairs of floors	4
Lighting or ventilation improved	2
New Storage accommodation	2
Additional means for protection of food from contamination	6
Other repairs or matters attended to	20

The majority of traders show a readiness to comply with requirements and are willing to co-operate in the efforts being made to raise the standard of cleanliness in the handling of food.

Clean Food Byelaws.

The Byelaws with respect to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air, have been adopted by the Council and came into operation on the 17th July, 1950.

Shops Act, 1950.

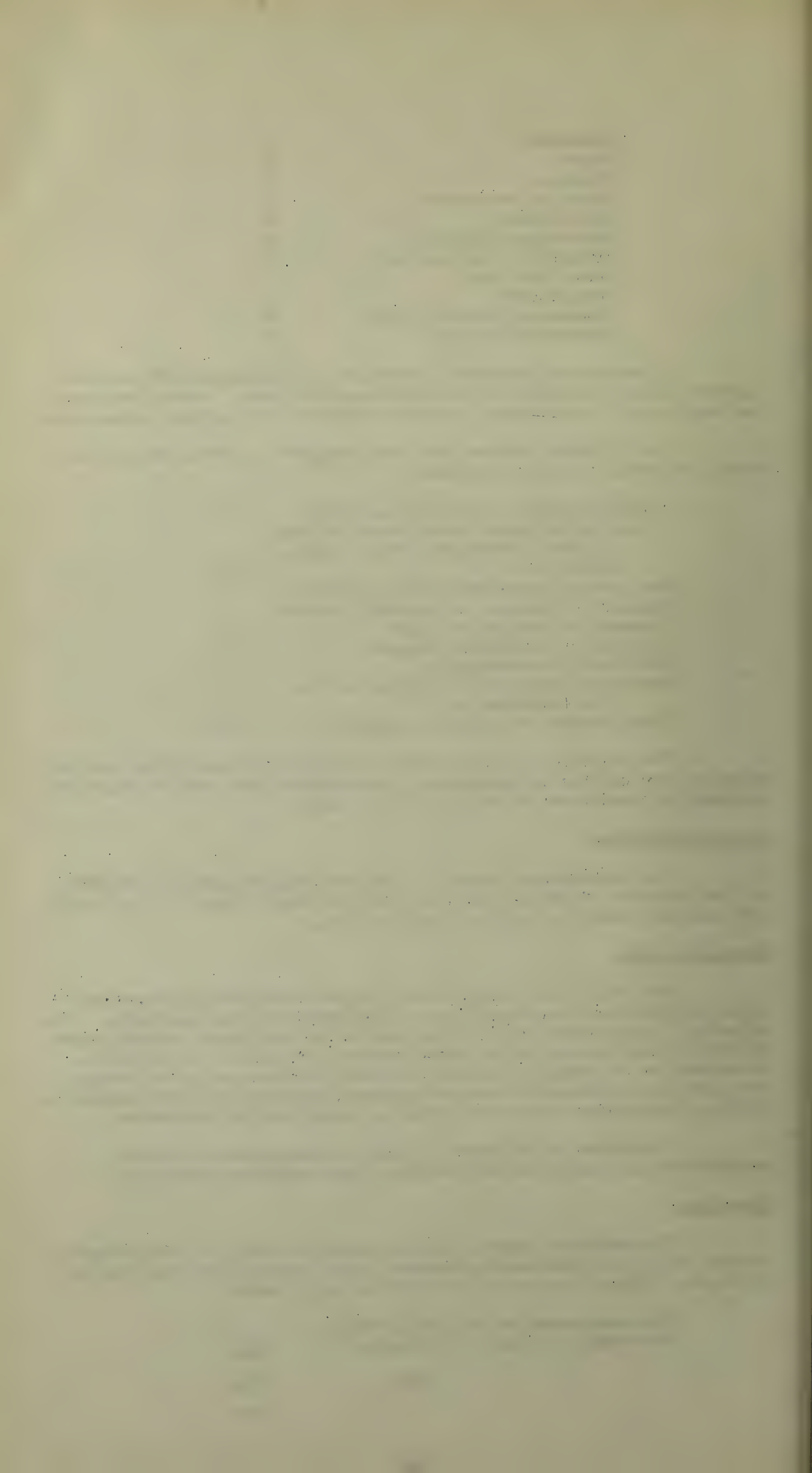
One hundred and seventy-three inspections and visits were made regarding shop hours and conditions of employment of shop assistants. The majority of shops close earlier than required by the general closing hours specified under the Act and no infringements were found. Wednesday is recognised as the early closing day for most of the shops in the Borough, but there is a tendency for some shopkeepers, particularly hairdressers, to adopt an alternative half day in order to remain open on Wednesdays.

Conditions of employment of shop assistants were generally satisfactory and only minor matters were found requiring attentions.

Ice-cream.

The number of premises used in connection with the manufacture or storage and sale of ice-cream registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, at the end of the year was as follows:-

For manufacture and sale of ice-cream	1
For storage and sale of ice-cream	<u>109</u>
TOTAL	110



The majority of retailers obtain their supplies of ice-cream from large manufacturers outside the Borough and in most cases pre-packed. The one trader manufacturing locally, is a heat-treatment manufacturer.

Ice-cream Sampling.

During the year, twenty-three samples of ice-cream and three samples of Iced Lollies were submitted for bacteriological examination. The following table gives a summary of the results:-

1954	Manufacturers Grades				Retailers only Grades				Total
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	
January	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
March	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	3
June	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	5
July	-	-	-	-	6+	-	1	-	7
August	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3
September	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
October	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	6
November	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	-	-	-	18	3	4	-	26

+ Including 3 Iced Lollies

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

In accordance with requirements of the above Act, occupiers of land or buildings are under an obligation to notify the local authority in writing of the presence of rats or mice in substantial numbers. It is also the duty of every local authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure, so far as practicable, that their district is kept free from rats and mice. They are empowered to make inspections and enforce owners and occupiers to carry out such operations as may be necessary for this purpose.

Advice and assistance are given to persons who report any infestation or apply for information as to preventive measures. Such advice is based on methods of destruction recommended by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Where treatment is carried out at premises other than private dwellings, a charge is made at the rate of 5/- per hour, with a minimum charge of 5/-

Two full-time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Corporation and their work is performed under the general supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:-

Number of complaints and reports investigated	515
Number of inspections and visits	6,133
Number of premises found infested	784
Number of treatments carried out by the Corporation's Rodent Operatives:-	
at private dwellings	876
at business premises	95
Number of cases where poisoned baits used	926
Number of cases where gas or traps used	9
Number of rats known to have been caught and destroyed by:-	
(a) the Corporation's Rodent Operatives	1,588
(b) by employees at Sewage Farm	99

Sewer Rat Control.

The treatment of sewers was continued during the year in accordance with requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The work is carried out by a Rodent Operative with assistance of sewer men from the Borough Engineer's Department.

For the purpose of treatment, the Borough is divided into thirteen sections and during May, 10% of the sewer manholes in each section, with exception of Section No. 11, were test baited. This was followed by the first treatment, which included pre-baiting and poisoning any manhole where evidence of infestation was found. In the case of Section No. 11, pre-baiting and poisoning was carried out without test-baiting as it was previously known to be infested.

During November a second treatment was undertaken. This included the pre-baiting of all manholes where there had been 'takes' under the first treatment and poison-baiting where manholes showed evidence of further 'takes'.

The following is a summary of the work carried out:-

Test Baiting (10% of manholes in each section)

Number of manholes test-baited	81
Number of manholes showing takes	27

First Treatment

Number of manholes pre-baited	27	
Number of manholes (Sec. No. 11) pre-baited	<u>51</u>	78
Number of manholes showing 'takes' and poison baited		68

Second Treatment

Number of manholes pre-baited	68
Number of manholes showing 'takes' and poison-baited	26

Insect Pests.

Numerous requests were received for advice and assistance in dealing with various types of household insect pests; flies, moths, furniture beetles, woodworm, etc.

Assistance is also given in the destruction of wasps' nests, without charge, and during the year 291 nests were dealt with on request.

School Disinfestation.

At the request of the Surrey County Council, the Corporation agreed to carry out the work of disinfestation at school buildings, school canteens and other properties in the Borough owned by the Surrey County Council.

This work has been undertaken since the 1st April, 1950, and the charges made are based on the actual cost of labour, plus materials and a reasonable charge for administration.

Mosquito Control.

The spraying of ponds and pools in the Wilmerhatch Lane area was carried out as in former years, and in other parts of the Borough. These control measures have largely reduced the nuisance from mosquitoes.

Smoke Abatement

Nine complaints were received during the year, seven of which concerned nuisance from smoke, soot and grit emitted by the boiler chimney at the Epsom District Hospital. The complaints were investigated and in the case of the Hospital chimney, ample evidence was found that it had at times been giving rise to serious nuisance, affecting residents in the vicinity. Enquiries were made at the Hospital when it was explained that the existing plant was insufficient to meet the increased demand of the hospital services and in consequence it was necessary to work it under greater pressure. A new plant was being installed, and the work involved would take some months to complete, but in the meantime efforts would be made to avoid, as far as possible, creating a nuisance.

Observations were continued until the end of the year, when an improvement was noted and it is hoped that when the new plant is in full operation there will be no further cause for complaint.

The two other complaints concerned smoke from a boiler chimney at a laundry and a flue pipe at a garage. In both cases the owners were informed and steps taken to prevent further complaints.

Mortuary

Eighty-nine bodies have been admitted to the mortuary and post-mortems held during the year. The number includes twenty-six bodies from outside districts, fees amounting to £19. 10. 0. being received for the use of the post-mortem room.

A refrigeration plant with cold store containing a three-tier body rack is installed at the Mortuary.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act, which came into force on the 1st April, 1952, provides that no person shall keep a pet shop except under licence granted by the Local Authority in accordance with the provisions of the Act and on payment of a fee not exceeding ten shillings. Three renewal applications were received and licences granted in 1954.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises in the Borough which are subject to registration under the provisions of this Act and no samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during the year.

The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953

The provisions of the above-mentioned Regulations came into force on the 1st October, 1953, and the Sanitary Inspectors as authorised officers, have carried out inspections of heating appliances offered for sale at business premises. In several cases advice was given with regard to requirements of the Regulations and in one or two instances stock was withdrawn for the fitting of new fireguards.

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